

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00841 070853Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----118993 071222Z /41  
R 070812Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9472

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 841

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDIP, US, VM  
SUBJECT: US-VIET RELATIONS

1. DURING AN INDONESIAN RECEPTION AUGUST 5, VIETNAMESE FIRST SECRETARY BUI VAN TANH ASKED EMBOFF TO COMMENT ON THE PRESENT STATE OF US-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS. EMBOFF GAVE THE STANDARD REPLY THAT WE WERE READY TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BUT THAT WE WERE NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND WERE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO FURNISH AID TO VIETNAM. TANH REPLIED THAT THE U.S. MUST GIVE AID TO VIETNAM BUT THAT THE QUESTIONS OF AID AND DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE SEPARATE ISSUES.

2. TANH DID NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS UNDERTAKING ANY SORT OF FORMAL INITIATIVE. RATHER HE SIMPLY SEEMED TO BE EXPLAINING VIETNAMESE POLICY AS HE UNDERSTOOD IT.

3. COMMENT: THE VIETNAMESE WITH WHOM WE HAVE TALKED LATELY HAVE BEEN UNUSUALLY FRIENDLY, HAVE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONSHIP, AND HAVE IMPLIED THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO BE FLEXIBLE ON THE QUESTION OF AID. HOWEVER, WHEN ASKED DIRECTLY THEY CONTINUE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THEY STILL EXPECT

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U.S. AID AS PART OF NORMAL RELATIONS.  
ROBERTS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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